

DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS

KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO, GOVERNOR



RICHARD L. STALDER, SECRETARY

**September 3, 2005
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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AG's Office and Corrections Services Open Booking, Processing and Short Term Detention Facility in New Orleans

(New Orleans) Department of Public Safety and Corrections Secretary Richard L. Stalder and Attorney General Charles C. Foti, Jr. say a temporary booking, processing and short-term detention facility in New Orleans became operational early Saturday morning at midnight. The location of the facility remains undisclosed due to security reasons.

In response to Governor Kathleen Blanco's demand to stop looting and get suspected criminals off the streets, the Department of Corrections and Attorney General's Office worked to assemble the facility in an incredibly short amount of time. Early Saturday morning, capacity was at 100 detainees; capacity will be 500 by Saturday evening; and up to 750 by Sunday evening.

Stalder and Foti are requesting a full time contingent of National Guard Military Police to assist in securing the outside of the facility, approximately 12 MP's on an around-the-clock basis to ensure the safety of staff. Both Corrections Services and Attorney General's Office personnel will be assigned to the temporary holding and detention facility.

Detainees accused of minor or moderate offenses will be processed and released. Detainees accused of more serious offenses will be transferred to a state correctional facility for subsequent court proceedings.

We will keep law enforcement, including Louisiana State Police and the New Orleans Police Department, informed of site readiness.

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